

July 2020

Volume 23, Issue 06

## 2020 Upcoming Meetings:

**No July meeting. The centre does not yet have provincial approval to open the Seniors room.**

Next Aug. 5, Sep. 2nd, followed by Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2nd. No meetings January and February. So first meeting in 2021 will be Mar. 3rd.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., meeting starts 7 p.m., at the Rockwood Public Library (inside Eramosa Community Centre) at 85 Christie Street (near corner Christie Street and Main Street North Wellington Road 27, Rockwood, On. N0B 2K0.

## 2019 Annual Membership Fee:

Regular \$10  
Couple \$12  
Junior (14 to age 18) \$5  
Under 14 Free

## Membership / Treasurer Contact:

c/o: Scott Douglas, 273 Mill St. E., Acton, On. L7J 1J7,

Ph: (519) 853-3812,

E-mail: sdouglas333@gmail.com

## Guelph Saturday Coin Show Dates:

2020-September 26th

2021-April 24th

2021-September 25th

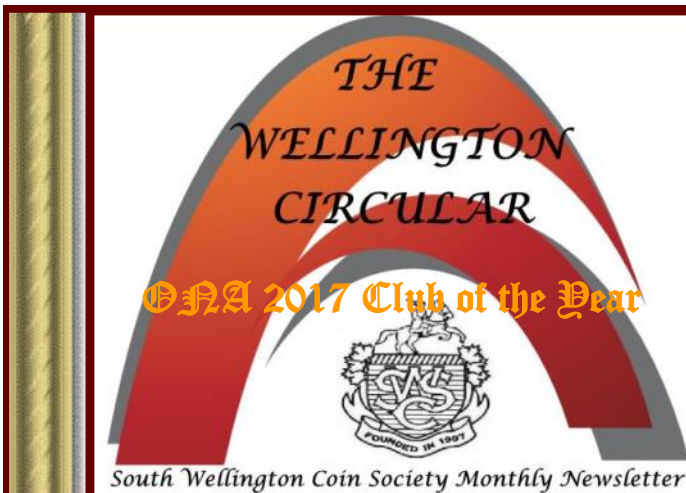
2022-April 23rd

2022-September 24th

Are you attending?

☒ YES, I WILL BE THERE

☐ NO



**NEXT MEETING DATE:  
UNKNOWN UNTIL  
PANDEMIC HAS  
CLEARED**

**IN THE MEANTIME:  
ENJOY YOUR  
COLLECTION, CALL  
FRIENDS, LAUGH AND  
SMILE**

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE

We have been in contact with the Rockwood / Library Community Centre (Rockmosa Park) Administration and as of June 11, 2020, they do not have Provincial approval to open up Older Adult / Library Centre, and cannot give us any idea when the facility will again be available. As well, they are not yet informed of what new protocols may need to be adhered too when using the room. It is anticipated it may be opened by our August or September meeting, and we'll keep you informed. Scott & Mike are considering ZOOM or a tailgate mtg.

Michael Souza of the North Shore Numismatic Society (NSNS, Vancouver) sent this "BUTTCOIN" to your Editor →



← Now to the left, is an image somebody sent your Editor referring to it as "Trump Emergency Relief Fund".



This issue of your newsletter was prompted by email stuff Mike Hollingshead was sending your Editor. It will likely flow all over the place, but you can blame it on Mike. BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE LAST PAGE! Hopefully you enjoy the issue and feel it doesn't need to be flushed!



South Wellington  
Coin Society

founded  
in 1997



## Newsletter Editor

**Judy Blackman, FONA, KSIE**

E-mail:  
**jblackman@rogers.com**

Send pictures in jpg,  
files in doc, xls, pdf,  
wpd, or email body.



Articles of the upcoming  
newsletters are due to the Editor  
by no later than the 15th of the  
current month.

Advertising space will be  
accommodated where space is  
available.

**SWCS:**  
Was founded in March 1997.  
This medal was issued 2015.



**SWCS is recipient of  
BOTH RCNA Club of  
Year and Newsletter of  
Year Awards.**



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

### SWCS EXECUTIVE

Term of Office: **July 1, 2018—June 30, 2021 (3 yrs)**

#### **Board of Directors (elected)**

*(sets officers' guidelines, but not involved in day-to-day operations EXCEPT responsible for ALL education programs and looks after ALL contracts for venues and insurance)*

Chairman / Director: **Scott Douglas**

Directors: **Peter Becker, Ernie Blair, Garry George, John Semedo, Lowell Wierstra**  
(ljwierstra@rogers.com, **519-824-6534**)

Director of Youth Services: **Peter Horne deus (YN)**

#### **Officers (elected)**

*(run the day-to-day operations)*

President: **Scott Douglas**, sdouglas333@gmail.com, **519-853-3812**  
*(also is club archivist, historian, and looks after medals)*

Past-President: **John Semedo**, johnsemedo99@gmail.com, **519-821-6379**

Vice-President: **Mike Hollingshead**, cholling@uoguelph.ca, **519-823-2646**

Treasurer: **Scott Douglas**

*(includes all revenues generated from membership dues, meetings, and shows; and looks after advertising)*

Secretary: **Judy Blackman**, jblackman@rogers.com  
*(includes flyers, other club notices, newsletters since Oct 5 2011, public website liaison, private website webmaster)* Newsletter / Flyer Distribution: **Linda Blair**

#### **Other Non-Elected IMPORTANT Club Roles**

ALL Multi-Media Needs & Photographer: **John Semedo**

ALL Draws and Membership Meeting Notes: **John Semedo** and **Mike Hollingshead**

Show Bourse: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Lowell Wierstra**  
Social Media Show Advertising: **Andrew Fedora**

Auction Chairman: **Lowell Wierstra**  
Auctioneers: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Scott Douglas**  
Auction Runners: available executive and other members.

Meeting Room Set-up and Clean-up:  
**All members present**



## Who Owns eBay? (from your Editor)

Mike Hollingshead raised an issue this week (June 9) about dealer listings on eBay getting around the embargoed Cuban rules re U.S. sanctions. He found a listing (*shown right*) that called the Cuban banknote “Central American” banknote. I checked this note today (June 10), and it’s been SOLD – did you scoop it up Mike? There are others that put the number 1 in front of Cuban (i.e. 1Cuban), or list under “Historic Memorabilia” category, and that seems to get them around the rules. So before we dwell further on this, shouldn’t we understand who owns eBay and why does the U.S. Government has any say of what is listed on this site?



So the owner of eBay as of June 10, “only” has \$16.2 billion USD in personal wealth! Pierre Omidyar founded online auction firm eBay in 1995 and now serves on the company’s board. In 2002 eBay bought online payment company PayPal and spun it off in 2014. Omidyar currently owns 5% of eBay and 6% of PayPal. Through his Omidyar Network, which he launched in 2004, he has put \$1.4 billion into impact investments and non-profits that tackle global problems. A resident of Hawaii, Omidyar owns stakes in resort properties in California and Mexico and is developing real estate in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. He’s also the founder of First Look Media, the parent company of online news site The Intercept and the entertainment company Topic Studios.

In October 2018, his network spun off its decade-old citizen engagement arm, which has doled out \$326 million since its launch, and named it Luminare. He’s also the founder of Honolulu Civil Beat, Ulupono Initiative,

Now he’s only #118 on the Billionaires 2020 list for Richest People in the World, and he’s only #36 on the Forbes 400 2019 list. Business figure, entrepreneur and philanthropist Pierre Morad Omidyar was born on June 21, 1967, in **Paris, France**. Unlike many other high-tech entrepreneurs, Omidyar didn’t set out to become an Internet tycoon. He is now referred to as a French-born Iranian American entrepreneur and philanthropist. Omidyar and his wife Pam (Pamela Kerr Omidyar) are well-known philanthropists who have expanded their efforts beyond non-profits to include for-profits and public policy. He is a very close friend of Richard Branson.

But he’s an American citizen – why? He was born to Iranian parents who had first migrated to France, and then later they migrated again, this time to the United States so they could get a higher education. His father (Cyrus Omidyar) was a surgeon who worked as a urologist at John Hopkins. His mother did her doctorate in linguistics at the Sorbonne. Pierre went to school in Hawaii for a couple of years at Punahou School, and he now sits on the school’s Board of Trustees). He then attended school at the Potomac School in McLean (Virginia) when his interest in computers began. He next graduated from St. Andrew’s Episcopal School in Potomac (Maryland). On to graduation with a BA in computer science, from Tufts University in Medford-Somerville (Massachusetts). Now he was at University of California (Berkeley). By 1991 he had co-founded Ink Development, a pen-based computing start-up later rebranded as an e-commerce eShop Inc. Microsoft acquired eShop in 1996 for just less than \$50 million of which Pierre only earned \$1 million from the deal. Next up he began writing the original computer code for an online venue to enable the listing of direct person-to-person auction for collectible items, and then he created eBay, and so forth, his story kept going and still does today.

Now if he had remained an Iranian citizen and just gone to school in the U.S., today his creations would be under Iran’s jurisdiction, but as a U.S. citizen, the American lay claim over eBay and PayPal! But I imagine he’d have to watch out for US drones!

The U.S. Government has come after him before the issue of Cuban listings on eBay. The argument was about personal jurisdiction in internet cases in the United States and the impact on the US Constitution and this has been before the highest levels of the courts in the USA, often revisiting a previous decision. The most well-known cases among the legal community is the *Boshetto v. Hansing*, a diversity jurisdiction case involving the sale of an item via eBay. The decision was appealed right to the Ninth Circuit. The Court became the first federal appellate court to address whether personal jurisdiction in a forum state could be established when an out-of-state resident makes use of an intermediary website accessible by forum-state citizens. What essentially happened next, is the United States of America (Plaintiff) filed again eBay Inc. (defendant) a complaint (2012) alleging eBay participated in an agreement in violation of Section One of the Sherman Act. A Final Judgement was reached stating the Final Judgement does not constitute any admission by eBay



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

that the law has been violated or of any issue of fact or law. It does however bound eBay over to provisions of the Final Judgement of which there is a long list.

Related Content. This **section** of the **Sherman Act** prohibits agreements between two or more individuals or independent entities that unreasonably restrain trade (15 U.S.C. § 1). **Section 1** also regulates foreign entities doing business abroad if the business sufficiently affects US consumers.

It only gets worse from here. In July 2013, eBay began rejecting listings of any country that is embargoed. This sent the Cuban Numismatic Association in an uproar! There were two big issues: 1. if the seller is a U.S. citizen and the goods have been in the United States since before Cuba was embargoed, then why cannot they not be sold; and 2. if the Cuban notes are First Republic (1915-1961) these notes were made by the United States, so why would they not be allowed. The response was that the government applied a “Blanket Ban” on all things Cuban. eBay as well, through legal counsel replies they do not have the expertise nor resources to examine each listing and file the paperwork to prove whether or not it should be argued as “allowable” since its First Republic, and basically eBay had no desire to do so — that the folks wanting to list can take the battle up with the U.S. Government. For example, coins and currency issued before 1958 (Cuba Revolution), the “origination” point is not Cuba, but the United States. Cuban coins were made by the US Mint and the planchets (coin blanks) were produced from metals mined in the United States. Furthermore, Cuban paper money was made by the American Banknote Company. Many of these numismatic items were in America before the Cuban revolution — and yet, neither the US Government nor eBay will permit listing them.

The next questions of sellers, “if I’m a Canadian citizen and I list them on eBay.ca instead of eBay.com, can I get around it that way?” To computer folks the answer is simple, NO! Just because eBay bought a CIRA (Canadian Internet Registry Authority) code for its domain, doesn’t mean users don’t have to abide by eBay policy. There is also a UK IRA, etc. You can buy up other codes for your own website. This is something companies worried about competitors will do, buy up all the codes available so their competitors cannot use their domain name for a website by simply have a different code. It also helps to prevent competitors from secretly pointing users who are browsing for one company into their website without realizing they are not on the real site. But you have to give Canadians credit for searching for a legal work-around! You also buy them up to attract more people to your website, and also for those who may not know or may not enter the correct code, will still be directed to your site. Whether you are on eBay.com or eBay.ca for example, the exact same policies and wording comes up in regards to listing rules.



































So let’s go to the horse’s mouth! eBay is bound by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). They confirm this on eBay and advise “If you list such an item in violation of this policy, we will remove the item and may prohibit you from further use of our services. More information on the specific items covered by the sanctions related to Cuba can be found here: <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-ce...es/cuba.aspx>. Sellers can’t list embargoed goods or pre-embargoed goods from Cuba. Organizations, businesses, or individuals based in or from Cuba, or those on the United States’ Specialty Designated Nationals (SDNs) list cannot register accounts on eBay. Activity that does not follow eBay policy could result in a range of actions including for example: administratively ending or cancelling listings, hiding or demoting all listings from search results, lowering seller rating, buying or selling restrictions, and account suspension. All fees paid or payable in relation to listings or accounts on which we take any action will not be refunded or otherwise credit to your account.”

Visiting the Treasury website under Resource Center: Cuba Sanctions the most recent changes occurred summer and fall of 2019. These mainly pertain to financial u-turning (moving money between banks) and Cuban Asset Control Regulations.

So what did I find yesterday (June 10) when I search on eBay? I had my settings on 200 items per page and after getting to page 14 and realizing there were many more pages yet, I stopped my search! Over and above what you see below, I was able to find over forty listings for Cuban cigars, a ton of listings for Cuban books, and an enormous amount of listings for postcards / photos / posters of Cuba — now sure, most of these show up on a non-eBay.com but rather one of the other codes like eBay.ca. All of which have the word “Cuba” in the actual listing, are shown below. Maybe with all the firings and staff cutbacks Trump has done, there’s nobody around to police this right now?

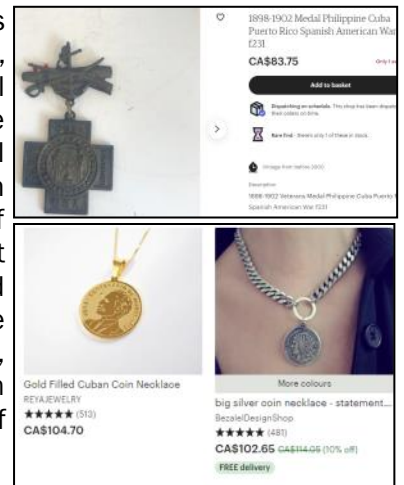


# South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

 <p>CUBA - FLAG SERIES \$2 Two-Dollar U.S. Bill - Genuine Legal Tender Bank Note Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$20.07</b> Buy It Now +C \$21.41 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United States</p>	 <p>2 Havana Tokens Thread Good For One C-4d From International House Chain FREE SHIP</p> <p><b>\$14.99</b> Buy It Now +C Watch</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Stock issued to Lew F. Moxon and signed by William C. Van Home</p> <p><b>\$125.00</b> Buy It Now +C Watch</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>The Banknote Book: Cuba, Brand New, Free P&amp;P in the UK Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$43.78</b> Buy It Now +C \$27.31 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United Kingdom</p>
 <p>Vintage postage stamps Russian paper banknotes USSR postage stamps Soviet stamps</p> <p><b>C \$20.14</b> or Best Offer +C \$26.85 shipping</p> <p>From Russian Federation</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Sponsored: The Banknote Book: Cuba, Brand New, Free shipping in the US Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$43.31</b> Buy It Now +C \$17.44 shipping</p> <p>From United States</p>
 <p>Banknote Book: Cuba by Linzmayer Owen Linzmayer (English) Paperback Book Free Sh Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$60.87</b> Buy It Now +C \$7.68 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From Australia</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Sponsored: The Banknote Book: Cuba, Like New Used, Free shipping in the US New (Other)</p> <p><b>C \$70.43</b> Buy It Now +C \$17.44 shipping</p> <p>From United States</p>
 <p>NEW LISTING: 4Cuba 2019 *** MAHATMA GANDHI *** India 2019 MNH mint never hinged</p> <p><b>C \$4.99</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>AMERICAS v29 #5 1977 Latin ART &amp; CULTURE Cuba Brazil CARRENO Bank Notes ORCHIDS Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$9.33</b> Buy It Now +C \$16.11 shipping</p> <p>From United States</p>
 <p>1CUBA Sc# 1496-1501 CARIBBEAN GAMES sports competition CPL SET of 5 1970 used</p> <p><b>C \$4.49</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Rare HAVANA CUBA Cigar Factory - 1800's EMBOSSED Lithograph "JOSE GENER BATE" LARGE +Originals Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$850.00</b> or Best Offer +C \$45.60 shipping</p>
 <p>4Cuba Sc# C323 (C.C.I.R.) International Radio Consulting Committee 1979 MNH</p> <p><b>C \$1.99</b> 0 bids +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>Bid 15h left (06:20, 02:49 a.m.)</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>ORIGINAL MASON / FREEMASONIC JOURNAL LOGIA CUBA 1957 CIRCULAR 14 PAGES Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$40.26</b> or Best Offer +C \$6.71 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From Spain</p>
 <p>Cuba Libre : Che, Fidel, and the Improbable Revolution That Changed World History Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$29.52</b> List price: C \$37.60 22% off Buy It Now +C \$17.45 shipping</p> <p>From United States</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Cuba Railroad Company signed by W.C. VanHome Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$335.62</b> Buy It Now +C \$47.05 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United States</p>
 <p>6Cuba Sc# 3773-3777 CHESS Jose Raul Capablanca CHAMPION Cpi set of 5 1996 used</p> <p><b>C \$2.79</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>William Cornelius Van Home signed Cuba Railroad Co Stock Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$335.62</b> Buy It Now +C \$47.05 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United States</p>
 <p>4CUBA Sc# 2754 POSTAL MUSEUM Havana stamp collectin 1985 MNH</p> <p><b>C \$1.79</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.00 shipping</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>La Compania de los Puertos de Cuba Brand New</p> <p><b>C \$114.11</b> Buy It Now +C \$47.05 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United States</p>
 <p>NEW LISTING: 6CUBA NEW! 2019 UPU Universal Postal Union mail lighthouses 2019 MNH mint</p> <p><b>C \$1.79</b> 0 bids +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>Bid 3h left (06:20, 03:01 p.m.)</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>ORIGINAL MASON / FREEMASONIC PHOTO 1951 CUBA CABALLEROS DE LA LUZ JOSE MARTI Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$302.05</b> or Best Offer +C \$6.71 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From Spain</p>
 <p>Patch_ Cuban Alpha 66 2506 Brigade Cuba Primero Muertos Que Esclavos PATCH Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$12.36</b> 0 bids Free Shipping</p> <p>Bid 3m left (Fri., 04:46 a.m.) Top Rated Seller From Vietnam</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Rethinking Slave Rebellion in Cuba : La Escalera and the insurgencies of 1841... Pre-Owned</p> <p><b>C \$17.39</b> or Best Offer +C \$25.30 shipping</p> <p>Top Rated Seller From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>
 <p>Ladobla - 1812 - 4 reales-joseph i napoleon-sevilla-lan overprinted vique cuba</p> <p><b>\$56.70</b> Buy It Now Watch</p> <p>From Spain</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>RARE Commemorative Medal 150th Anniversary Ferrocarril Cuba 1837-1987</p> <p><b>\$227.04</b> or Best Offer Watch</p> <p>From Italy</p>
 <p>47 Coins Various Cuts Cuba-UK-Switzerland-USA</p> <p><b>\$56.76</b> Buy It Now Watch</p> <p>From Italy</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	<p>Cuba 5</p> <p><b>C \$1.39</b> Buy It Now +C \$1.30 shipping</p> <p>From United States Customs services and international tracking provided</p>	 <p>Ticket spain civil war - 1 peseta plaza de cuba</p> <p><b>\$10.22</b> 0 bids Watch</p> <p>Bid 2d 17h left (Sun, 05:09 AM) From Spain</p>

## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

**Etsy** is an American e-commerce website focused on handmade or vintage items and craft supplies. These items fall under a wide range of categories, including jewelry, bags, clothing, home décor and furniture, toys, art, as well as craft supplies and tools. All vintage items must be at least twenty years old. Etsy has 64 listings x 245 pages with the word “Cuba” in the listing. Etsy’s policies read almost identical to eBay’s, “As a global company based in the US with operations in other countries, Etsy must comply with economic sanctions and trade restrictions, including those implemented by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”) of the US Department of the Treasury. This means that Etsy or anyone using our Services can’t take part in transactions that involve designated people, places, or items that originate from those places, as determined by agencies like OFAC. Sanctions include no listings of anything for these countries and regions: Cuba, ....” The only Cuban money I could bring up on this site was all coins that have been made in jewellery, and I could bring up medals but they seem to be from the US-side of skirmishes.



Now PayPal status! I found several occurrences of complaints because people’s payments via PayPal were cancelled. According to PayPal, if the forbidden word ‘Cuba’ (and / or ‘Castro’) is used, the payment will be cancelled, and you will give this message: “PayPal’s Compliance Department has reviewed your account and identified activity that may be violating US regulations set by the Department of the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the US Department of the Treasury (OFAC). PayPal requires that its client proves – via email – the purpose of the tentative payment of \$\_\_\_\_, including a full and detailed explanation of the goods or services you were trying to buy. Please also explain your message.” It even happens when you are just try to send money to somebody who is in Cuba, even if it’s a relative of yours who is there as a tourist. Now that one you can get through but only after first going through the Resolution Department.

So does this happen if you don’t use eBay, PayPal, or etsy’s? Who actually owns the Internet? The US often acts like it is American owned and we’ve seen Mark on television speaking before Congress especially in regard to Facebook and alleged Russian interference in American elections.



As of March 2020, Mark Zuckerberg’s personal wealth is \$54.3 billion USD (yes, more than Pierre’s). Mark (another American citizen) is the founder and CEO of Facebook and today owns 29.3% of Facebook’s Class A shares (NASDAQ:FB), compared to the time of the IPO when he owned 28.2%. He is Facebook’s largest shareholder as well as being one of the world’s richest individuals (#7 on Forbes). Did you know back in 2011, Zynga (social games such as Farmville) was responsible for 12% of FB’s earnings. At the time of the IPO, FB had 845 million users, and now has over 2.4 billion users. On May 8, 2020, the Facebook company had a net worth in excess of \$600 billion USD. So is Mark the owner of the Internet? No!



How about Google, does it own the Internet? Alphabet Inc. (GOOG, and GOOGL) is the parent of Google, the world’s largest search engine, which dominates Internet search activity globally. The parent also is involved on a broad array of businesses, including cloud computing, software and hardware, advertising services, and mobile and desktop applications. The company, originally called Google, was founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin in a garage in September 1998. As of March 30, 2020 figures, it is now a tech giant, with trailing-12-month (TTM) revenue of \$161.9 billion, TTM net income of \$34.3 billion, and a market cap of \$787.6 billion. Now



Larry is an American citizen (born in Michigan). He’s pictured on the left. Sergey Mikhaylovich Brin was born in Moscow, Russian, and he’s pictured on the right. Both were born in 1973 and they met when they attended Stanford University. Now where along the line, Sergey became a sole U.S. citizen without Russian citizenship. All of the folks mentioned in this article were born between 1965-1975, and earned their first million at a young age — they didn’t spend a lifetime building up a million for retirement!

No, Alphabet Inc. does not own the Internet! Neither does Russia, China, or the United States.



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

Folks have had this argument all over the world for decades. Often coming up with one of two responses: 1. Nobody, 2. Lots of people. If you think of the Internet as a unified, single entity, then no one owns it. There are organizations that determine the Internet's structure and how it works, but they don't have any ownership over the Internet itself. No government can lay claim to owning the Internet, nor can any company. The Internet is like the telephone system — no one owns the whole thing.

From another point of view, thousands of people and organizations own the Internet. The Internet consists of lots of different bits and pieces, each of which has an owner. Some of these owners can control the quality and level of access you have to the Internet. They might not own the entire system, but they can impact your Internet experience. For example you pay your Internet provider a monthly fee to have Internet use for your home computer and you pay for regular or you upgrade for high-speed delivery. So your provider is controlling the speed of Internet you have, as well, they are allocating your maximum use, unless the package you purchased is unlimited use.

The physical network that carries Internet traffic between different computer systems is the Internet backbone. At one time there was only one (ARPANET) to serve as the backbone, but today there are fourteen major corporations to provide the routers and cable that make up the Internet backbone, and at least 20 for businesses and 30 for residential. These companies are referred to as Internet Service Providers (ISPs). That means anyone who wants to access the Internet must ultimately work with these companies — probably one you have seen on television a lot is Verizon.

If you have been following Canadian news the last few weeks, you know Canada is still trying to decide if the Chinese Huawei telecom company should be part of this country's 5G "next generation wireless" network. The US, Australia and New Zealand have banned Huawei, and Britain has restricted Huawei's role. One of the potential solution for Canada is Ericsson, the Swedish telecom company. A lot of politics go into this decision because of national security issues, but also because of who Canada's allies are — one of which has opened the borders up again this week, but only for members of Canadian immediate families to re-enter Canada.

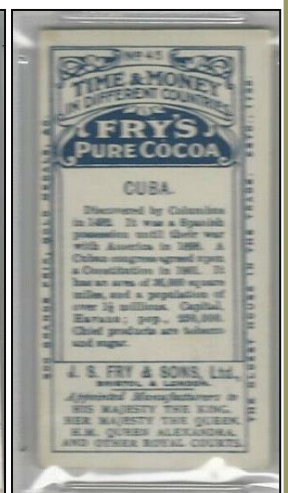
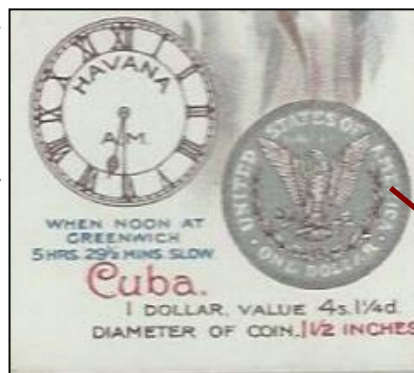
So how are countries regulating Internet content? This is a constant debate even at NATO! Keywords are frequently raised and include: Internet, content regulation, regulatory issues, censorship, USA, France, South Korea, Germany, Singapore, legal issues, international aspects, etc. Governments are looking for ways to control what their citizens can access, view, and post on the Internet. The Internet was supposed to belong to everybody worldwide, and now countries are trying to get the greatest control over it and claim ownership. Sound familiar? You've been living with this type of control all your life. You have television content controlled by your government through censorship, licensing, satellites, and geographic blackouts.

Only thing left to answer — why is it that none of my three step-kids (born 1975, 1976 and 1979) missed the boat on the tech ride to billions? LOL.

### J. S. Fry & Sons *(from your Editor)*

Now this listing (found during my Cuba eBay search referenced in the previous article) in particular interests me. It's a 1908 J. S. Fry & Sons Cuba Time & Money #46 EX 5 45394636 PSA certified with fugitive ink technology FO-O Fry's Cocoa non-sport collector trading card from the Money in Different Countries series. You go to the PSA website and enter the eight-digit certification number to bring up the information <https://www.psacard.com/cert/45394636/>. Was it the eBay seller's intention to make buyers believe this is from Cuba, or is it just a regular listing, or does the seller not know what it is? Regardless, let's have a closer look at this anyway! It has Fry's Chocolates on the front, and the back references J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd. The front shows an American dollar.

On the next page are some of the other cards (seven different countries, not the full series though) in this series as displayed on collectors.com, and you will note the price is only \$8.99 each compared to the eBay listing of \$20.13.



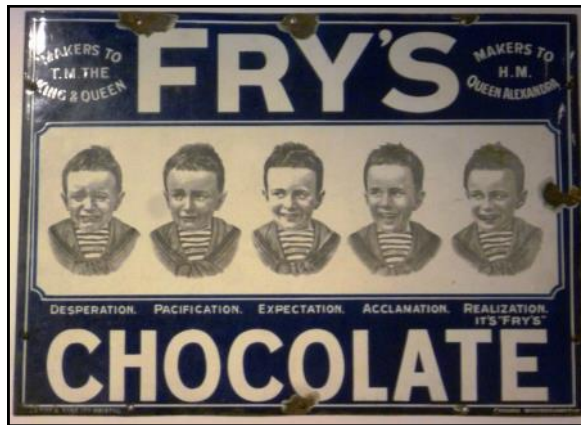
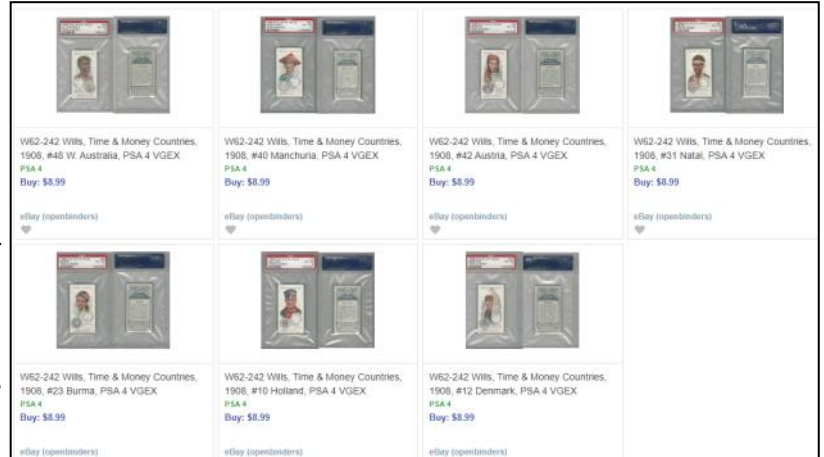
## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997



All of these have Fry's Chocolate on the front and J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd. On the back even though they are for different countries.

The US occupied Cuba 1906-1908, hence the British company J. S. Fry & Sons showing the US dollar on this card. Although no longer under US occupation, from 1908-1924 the US continued to intervene in Cuban affairs even though Cuba was under self-government.

It seemed liked US loved Cuba during WWI, as it was a key resource for sugar supply, but then the sugar market crashed in 1920.



These are two J. s. Fry & Sons Ltd. 1910 advertisements. The ad on the right, has the five sons with beneath them reading DESPERATION, PACIFICATION, EXPECTATION, ACCLAMATION, REALIZATION. The upper left hand corner says MAKERS TO T.M. THE KING & QUEEN and the upper right-hand corner says MAKERS TO H.M. QUEEN ALEXANDRIA.

[Wikipedia for educational purposes only explains:] Joseph Fry, a Quaker, was born in 1728. He started making chocolate around 1759. In 1761 Joseph Fry and John Vaughan

purchased a small shop from an apothecary, Walter Churchman, and with it the patent for a chocolate refining process. The company was then named **Fry, Vaughan & Co.** In 1777 their chocolate works moved from Newgate Street to Union Street, Bristol. Joseph Fry died in 1787 and the company was renamed **Anna Fry & Son.** In 1795 Joseph Storrs Fry assumed control of the company.

He patented a method of grinding cocoa beans using a Watt steam engine. As a result, factory techniques were introduced into the cocoa business. In 1803 Anna Fry died and Joseph Storrs Fry partnered with a Dr. Hunt. The business was renamed **Fry & Hunt.** In 1822 Hunt retired and Joseph Storrs Fry took on his sons Joseph, Francis and Richard as partners: the firm was renamed **J. S. Fry & Sons.** The company became the largest commercial producer of chocolate in Britain. In 1835 Joseph Storrs Fry died and his sons took full control.

In 1847, the Fry's chocolate factory, located in Union Street, Bristol, moulded a chocolate bar suitable for large-scale production. The firm began producing the Fry's Chocolate Cream bar in 1866. Over 220 products were introduced in the following decades, including production of the first chocolate Easter egg in UK in 1873 and the Fry's Turkish Delight (or **Fry's Turkish bar**) in 1914. In 1896 the firm became a registered private company. It was run by the Fry family, with Joseph Storrs Fry II, grandson of the first Joseph Storrs Fry, as the chairman.



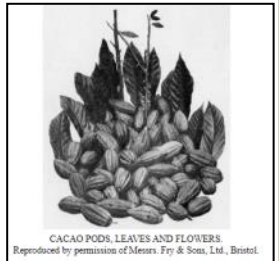
In 1881, an employee of Fry's H. J. Packer established his own chocolate business in Bristol. At its eventual home in Greenbank, Bristol, Packer's Chocolate continued to provide local competition for Fry's until 2006, under various owners and brands, from Bonds through to Famous Names and Elizabeth Shaw. Notice the image left reads "BEST COCOA FOR INVALIDS & CHILDREN" — so were adults not supposed to use it? The other says "HOMCEOPATHIC COCOA". You would think this would read HOMEOPATHIC as in *homeopathic medicine*



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

Near the start of World War I the company was one of the largest employers in Bristol. Joseph Storrs Fry II died in 1913. By 1919 the company merged with Cadbury's chocolate and the joint company named **British Cocoa and Chocolate Company**. Under Egbert Cadbury the Fry's division began the move to Somerdale, Keynsham in 1923. After 1981 the name Fry's was no longer in use at Somerdale, but the factory was still a major producer of Cadbury's products. On 3 October 2007, Cadbury announced plans to close the Somerdale plant, the historic home of the Fry's Factory, by 2010 with the loss of some 500 jobs. In an effort to maintain competitiveness in a global marketplace, production was to be moved to a new factory in Poland. In February 2010, following the takeover of Cadbury PLC by Kraft Foods, the closure was controversially confirmed to take place in 2011; Kraft had specifically agreed during the takeover battle to keep the site open. There was widespread outrage in the press and later a House of Commons Select Committee investigation into the affair. [end of Wikipedia info.]

So what has this got to with Cuba? Fry's owned shares of cocoa bean plantations in Cuba (as well as several others in Mexico and South America with the largest in Peru) and although the tokens below were for certain used in England, they may have been used at plantations too — although I was unable to find a direct reference, but there was references to British industrials with interests in Cuba plantations and the use of plantation tokens — I just could not get an example of a J.S. Fry plantation token, if there was one. *The Humble Memorial of Joseph Fry*, quoted in the chapter on history), but, as in appearance cacao seeds / nuts resemble *beans*, they are now usually spoken of as beans. Messrs. Fry and Sons, of Bristol, introduced a pure cocoa (powder) by pressing out part of the butter in 1868.



In *The Humble Memorial of Joseph Fry*, of Bristol, Maker of Chocolate, which was addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in 1776 (Messrs. Fry and Sons are the oldest English firm of chocolate makers, having been founded in 1728), we read that "Chocolate ... pays two shillings and threepence per pound excise, besides about ten shillings per hundredweight on the Cocoa Beans from which it is made." Fry & Sons also sold raw goods such as the cocoa beans, tea, coffee, and coffee beans — finding it a wonderful additional source of revenue. The Rx has been around since the 16th century and is taken from late Latin instruction recipe, meaning 'take thou'. Here's the tokens ("checks").

J.S. Fry & Sons Ltd. Catering Dept. Rx. ½d  
Brass, 24mm ↓



J.S. Fry & Sons Ltd. Catering Dept. Rx. 1d  
Brass, 29.3mm. Improved layout of the 1d with CATERING aligned with the "S" and different border. ↑

J.S. Fry & Sons Ltd. Catering Dept. Rx. 1d  
Brass, 29.3mm ↓

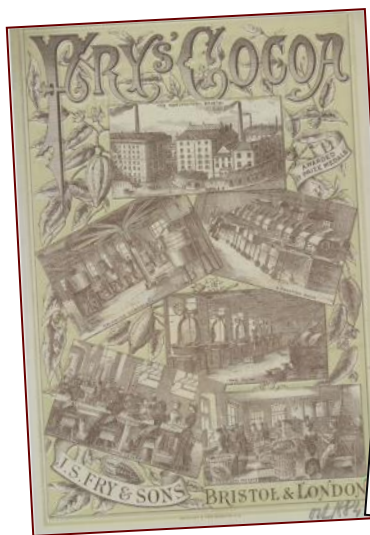
J.S. Fry & Sons Ltd. Catering Dept. Rx. 6d  
Brass, 26 x 17mm ↑

## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

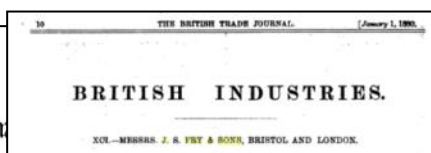
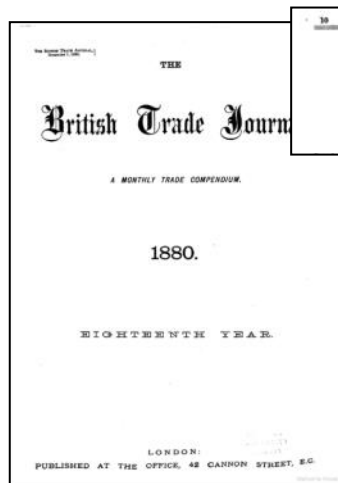
During the period July 1906 to October 1910, J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd. Ordered 26,000 of these brass checks from The Royal Mint in Birmingham:

July 1906	10,000	½D	
July 1906	5,000	1D	
September 1906	5,000	½D	
September 1906	5,000	1D	
October 1910	400	½D	wrapping die reverse
October 1910	600	1D	wrapping die reverse

They were to be made slightly under the size of the regal ½D and 1D.



← Lid from early cocoa tin.



**GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.** (FOURTEEN INTERNATIONAL MEDALS AWARDED.)  
MEDALS: SYDNEY, 1880; MELBOURNE, 1881.

## FRY'S COCOA

**FRY'S CARACAS COCOA**—in packets and tins. A delicious prepared Cocoa. "A most valuable article."—*Standard*.

**FRY'S COCOA EXTRACT**—in packets and Tins. Guaranteed pure Cocoa only, deprived of the superfluous oil.

**FRY'S HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA**—A first-class article, and a great favourite in the British Colonies.

GOODS SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR EXPORTATION.

**J. S. FRY & SONS, BRISTOL; AND 252, CITY ROAD, LONDON.**



← 1878 Gold medal

Our attention was next directed to the preparation of the CARACAS cocoa. Here selected Caracas nuts have been treated as before named up to the point of being run into blocks from the mill-stones. The solid block is now broken up into lumps and thrown into another pug-mill, and is there mixed with refined sugar, powdered fine, and arrowroot. A remarkable experiment was here shown us. Under the knife which cuts the cocoa blocks into small lumps was placed a flat tin dish, into which the falling pieces of lump cocoa fell. On applying our editorial knuckle to this dish a sharp electric spark was produced. Why this happens we cannot say, and mention it only as a curious problem for our more scientific readers to solve.

To return to the subject. After admixture in the pug-mill the cocoa, rendered into a fluid state, is again made into hard blocks, which are cooled, crushed, and sifted into fine powder before being packed into envelopes. Throughout the process there is the utmost cleanliness, and the materials are the finest procurable.

Very similar is the procedure for making the HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA, so highly recommended for its nutritive

From this nut or bean is produced cocoa and chocolate, and it is the manufacture of these that we propose to discuss in this British Industry.

That we are able to describe the manufacture as "British" is not a little due to the founders of the firm whose works we have been privileged to describe. Messrs. Fry & Sons are of no mushroom growth. Their works have been in existence for upwards of a century and a half. For half a century the premises occupied by them sufficed for their requirements. About a hundred years ago, however, an advertisement in a local paper mentions the fact that "Messrs. Fry's chocolate manufactory has been removed to more commodious premises in Union Street." These commodious buildings have from time to time been added to till the original works are dwarfed into comparative insignificance. The original premises taken appear to have gradually absorbed the houses right and left for a consider-

But we have said enough to show our readers how a representative English cocoa manufactory is conducted. Little wonder that with the careful selection of the best raw material, and the charming cleanliness and delicacy of manufacture, such a firm is able to boast of its orders received direct from Royalty, and of its 12 medals, from the first exhibition of 1851, to the Paris Exhibition of 1878. Diplomas such as these testify on their face to the "excellence," "merit," "purity," "wholesomeness," &c., of a valuable food, yearly growing in public estimation. Fifteen years ago the consumption of tea in this country was 3 lbs. per head of population. Coffee showed that about 1 lb. per head was used, and cocoa figured as only 13 of a pound. Tea now is represented by the figure of 4 66 lbs.; coffee less than a pound (97), and cocoa 29. Coffee therefore has decreased in its consumption per head of population by about 9 per cent.; but cocoa has made the enormous stride of increase of no less than 130 per cent. In 1864 only 3,562,273 lbs. of cocoa was consumed in this country; in 1878, just 10,000,000 lbs. were used, and a development of more prosperous times will, we feel sure, produce a still greater increase.

One last remark on a noteworthy feature of Messrs. Fry's establishment. In the course of our visit we came to a room of no meagre dimensions, fitted with seats. On the seats were volumes. It needed no question to arrive at the use of this large room. Here every morning the young girls,

← J.S. Fry & Sons received 12 medals direct from Royalty at the first Exhibition 1851 to the Paris Exhibition of 1878.

← J.S. Fry & Sons (revenue): but cocoa has made the enormous stride of increase of no less than 130 per cent.



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997



200th Anniversary of J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd. 1928 medallion: BHM#4221 Bicentenary of the Birth of Joseph Fry, by H. Youngman, after Eric Gill who had carved in box wood the portrait being the same actual size as the proposed medal. There were 6,457 51mm bronze medals struck by the Royal Mint, for presentation to the employees. One example was struck in gold for presentation to George V (George Frederick Ernest Albert; 3 June 1865 – 20 January 1936), the whereabouts of which is not known. This is the only medal listed in BHM (British Historical Medals) by Harold James Youngman (1886-1940).



The BHM entry reads...

BHM#4221 Bicentenary of the Birth of Joseph Fry, by H. Youngman, after Eric Gill who had carved in box wood the portrait being the same actual size as the proposed medal. 6,457 medals were struck, by the Royal Mint, for presentation to the employees. One example was struck in gold for presentation to the King, the whereabouts of which is not known.



From Work mag, Dec 1909

An interesting piece of trivia: In 1873 in the UK, J. S. Fry & Sons produced the very first Chocolate Easter Egg and in 1914 the first Turkish Delight.

## U of G Chancellor Quits (by Mike Hollingshead)

On May 4, 2020, Martha Billes (Chancellor, overseeing the U of G Senate, since 2017) quit her job because she disagrees with the University of Guelph's stance on fossil fuels. This was likely prompted by a conflict of interest given Martha is the controlling shareholder of the Canadian Tire Corporation. Martha who is an ex-officio voting member of the Board of Governors of U of G, opposed an April 22nd motion of the Board for the University to divest from fossil fuels. Despite her objection, the motion passed. The University has a \$32.4 million endowment fund which has holdings with fossil fuel reserves. The Board wants to invest in green projects put forth by oil and gas companies. Martha G. Billes is also President of the investment holding company, Tire'N'Me Pty. Ltd. Marth says, "For over 40 years, I have been an investor in business ventures including the oil business in my home city of Calgary and my family business, Canadian Tire Corporation. My decision to resign as Chancellor was prompted by the incompatibility of my business interests with the Board of Governors' decision to divest from fossil fuel companies in its endowment portfolio."

May 7, Diane Francis (Financial Post) shared, "The University of Guelph's grandstanding move to divest its endowment portfolio of fossil fuel stocks is an insult to Canada and its critically important oil and automotive sectors. Last month, U of G's board of governors overwhelmingly voted to divest itself of oil stocks for non-financial reasons, thereby joining a coven of universities in British Columbia and Quebec that demonize oil. The University caved to pressure by the student group Fossil Free Guelph, which organized a one hour sit-in and repetitive propaganda campaigns. Pathetic. This capitulation to fanaticism led to the resignation this week of the university's chancellor, Martha Billes, a philanthropist and controlling shareholder of Canadian Tire Corporation, one of Canada's most successful companies."

Alberta's Premier, Jason Kenney, stated May 8 for the Calgary Sun, "The Canadian energy industry has done more than any in modern Canadian history to create jobs and prosperity, to fund social programs and government services, and to unite Canadians with our equalization payments and transfer payments across the country, to which Alberta has contributed over \$600 billion in recent decades, thanks largely to our energy resources. Here's hoping Quebecers, all other Canadians and university boards understand this reality because if this industry does die in Canada, this country will suffer terribly and Canadians will still consume oil and gas from other less-desirable places."



## Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago *(from Press Release)*

On December 9, 2019, the Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago (CBTT) introduced a new 100-dollar note on polymer substrate with significantly enhanced security. The polymer 100-dollar notes replaced the preceding paper notes, which lost their legal tender status on December 31, 2019. On February 21, 2020, the CBTT introduced designs for other denominations of polymer notes, with the first notes issued in September 2020. These polymer notes will circulate in parallel with the preceding paper notes until the end of 2021.

The official currency of Trinidad and Tobago is the Trinidad and Tobago dollar (TTD). Trinidad and Tobago banknotes are: 1 dollar, 5 dollars, 10 dollars, 20 dollars, 50 dollars, 100 dollars. Trinidad and Tobago coins are: 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, 1 dollar. Exchange rates 1 euro = 7,32 TTD 1 USD = 6,75 TTD 1 GBP = 8,75 TTD 1 INR = 0,094 TTD.

The new designs will feature on the front of all the banknotes, bold, bright numerals representing the note's value / denomination and a variety of native birds found on the islands, with the country's crest being depicted in the centre.

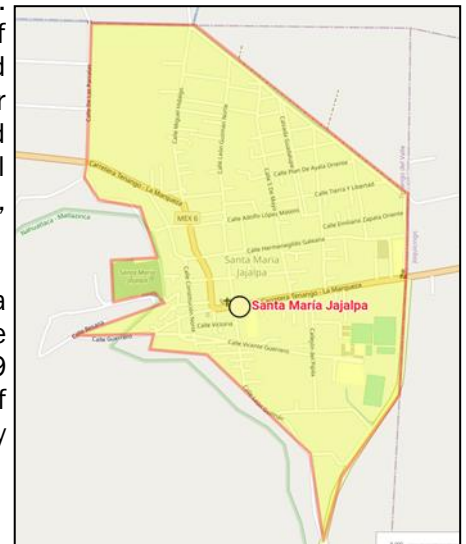
The back of all the banknote denominations will include an image of the building of the Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago.

The banknotes will also incorporate upgraded security features – tactile imprint, micro-perforations, micro-lettering, shimmering metal print and updated security thread applications.



## Jajalpesos *(from April 14, 2020, Press Release)*

Santa María Jajalpa, a small town of about 6,000 inhabitants 50 miles from Mexico City is confronting the impact of the virus on some of its residents by issuing a local currency, "jajalpesos," that can be used as vouchers to exchange for food. They have their own design, the town emblem, consisting of examples of local agricultural products in the center, flanked by a pair of jaguars and security codes. The jajalpesos are backed by money the municipality collects in the normal course of local administration. They are traded at par with the Mexican peso, although they are not backed by the Bank of Mexico and are not legal tender. They are only valid in the community at designated businesses. About 200 families have received, on average, about 100 jajalpesos (\$4.10) thus far. Recipients are chosen, says a city representative "based on their level of vulnerability, whether they have been fired or have nowhere to work." They are used to buy vegetables, chicken or tortillas. The accepting merchants exchange them for cash at a local bank. While this is a boost to the local economy, its impact is limited to funds available. Because the program is not supported by the state or federal government, it plans to limit distribution to a total of 50,000 pesos (2.125 USD), about \$2,000.



## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Trusted, up-to-date information with AI from Watson.

Santa Maria Jajalpa, Mexico

Mexico

As of Wed, Jun 10, 2020, 6:50 PM EDT

CONFIRMED CASES

**120,102**

+28.5% Since last week

DEATHS

**14,053**

+38.2% Since last week

COVID-19 Q&A  
with Watson

Ask Watson for trusted  
information from the  
Centers for Disease Control,  
World Health Organization  
and other official sources.

The town of Santa Maria Jajalpa is the worst hit COVID-19 area, causing loss of life, and also a severely deteriorated economy.



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997



The Jajalpesos (tickets / vouchers) are made of rare paper designed by the Jajalpa delegates to avoid counterfeiting and to continue supporting the more than 100 families who have received up to 200 jajalpesos during the contingency. The delivery of this money is intended for buying food and medicines in the community square. The community square is opened limited hours and each family has a designated day and can only go out once a week.

Jajalpesos are not the only initiative to introduce vouchers to reactivate the local economy, because in the face of the health emergency caused by COVID-19 and the closure of businesses, 12 of the 16 mayors of Mexico City will distribute vouchers biweekly with a value of 350 pesos, which can be exchanged only in local businesses such as butchers, grocery stores and public markets.



### Ajoloales (from May 6, 2020, Press Release)



Ajoloales is the new currency in Xochimilco due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The vouchers were launched by the Mayor's office for the delivery of axoloti vouchers as part of the emerging "Market, Community, Food and Supply" program, better known as "Mercomuna", implemented in various city halls of the capital in order to support the population economically affected by the health emergency.

According to a newsletter from the Mayor's office, "axoloti vouchers" may be exchanged for food and supplies from the basic basket such as eggs, meat, chicken, vegetables, fruits and others. These vouchers that take their name from the axolotis, an endemic species of the demarcation, will be received at the participating merchant establishments, duly identified with the legend "Mercomuna Xochimilco".

## Mali

In reading the World Food Programme (WFP) update (May 2020), your Editor noticed a section about Japan and WFP providing emergency food assistance to newly displaced people in Mali. The Government of Japan has contributed the equivalent of 3 million USD to the United Nations WFP to provide urgent food assistance to 100,000 newly displaced persons and host communities affected by conflict and intercommunal violence in northern and central Mali.

Inter-ethnic conflict and attacks on local authorities and institutional structures have gradually eroded the security situation in Central Mali since 2012 forcing an ever-increasing number of families to flee their homes and making it more difficult for humanitarian organizations, like World Vision, to help those who are affected. For example, As of November 2019, the Population Movement Commission (PMC) reported that there were 201,429 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Mali. As a result of the situation, nearly millions are in need of humanitarian assistance, hundreds of schools have been closed and more than hundreds of thousands of children require emergency education support. Sadly, the situation is deteriorating and the impact of the conflict has spread across the borders to Burkina Faso, Niger and Mauritania as well.

This seems so off when you consider the beautiful images that have been on Mali banknotes over the years, the life portrayed of serenity, family, earth-minded, kind people, now defies the images of today's situation. The official currency



## South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

in Mali is the West African CFA Franc (XOF), which is divided into 100 centimes. The CFA franc is tied to the Euro. Foreign currency can be exchanged at banks in Bamako. The Euro is the easiest currency to exchange. Some major credit cards, most reliably Visa, are accepted in some hotels and restaurants in the capital, but credit cards in general are not widely used in Mali.

The **Malian franc** was the independent currency of Mali between 1962 and 1984. Although technically subdivided into 100 *centimes*, no subdivisions were issued. Until 1962, Mali used the West African CFA franc. The Malian franc was introduced that year at par with the CFA franc but later declined in value relative to it. In 1984, Mali readopted the CFA franc, with 2 Malian francs = 1 CFA franc. In 1962, aluminium coins were issued (dated 1961) in denominations of 5, 10 and 25 francs. A second issue of aluminium-bronze was issued between 1975-1977 in denominations of 10, 25, 50 and 100 francs coins. Banknotes dated 22 SEPTEMBRE 1960 were issued by the Banque de la République du Mali (Bank of the Republic of Mali) in 1962 in denominations of 50, 100, 500, 1,000 and 5,000 francs. A second issue with new designs were issued in 1967 in the same denominations as the previous series. Following Modibo Keita's overthrow on 19 November 1968, the Banque Centrale du Mali (Central Bank of Mali) was established, and took over note production with the 1971 introduction of a third series of 100, 500, 1000, 5000 and 10,000 francs notes.



### The Newest Currency (from Guess Who?)

